



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Environmental Services Department
Miramar Greenery



Guide To Using
**RECYCLED
LANDSCAPE
PRODUCTS**



Located within the City of San Diego's Miramar Landfill, the Miramar Greenery produces high quality compost, mulch and wood chips at competitive prices. Available to the public, these products are beneficial in helping to improve soil, conserve water and enhance landscapes. Made from green, food and wood wastes, these recycled landscape products help divert organic wastes from entering the landfill. Currently more than 14 percent of the residential waste in the Miramar Landfill is recyclable organic material.

For more product information, pricing or other assistance, please call the Environmental Services Department at 858-694-7000 or visit our website at:

www.sdrecyclingworks.com

FROM WASTE TO RECYCLED LANDSCAPE PRODUCTS



WHAT IS COMPOST?



Compost is a nutrient rich soil product that is produced from the natural decomposition of organic material. At the Miramar Greenery both green waste and food waste are diverted from the landfill to produce compost. Through a 90-day process called composting, these organic materials are ground into small pieces and placed in windrows where they are continuously watered and aerated. Microorganisms help heat up these windrows to 165°F ensuring that weed seeds and plant pathogens are killed while they break down the organic material into beneficial soil nutrients. Finished compost is then screened to one-half inch particle size. The result is one of the finest composts in San Diego that can be used in a variety of landscaping and planting applications. It is available to the public for purchase and up to two cubic yards are free to City residents who self load it.

COMPOST USAGE RATES

Area Size (square feet)	1 inch depth (cubic yards)	2 inch depth (cubic yards)
1,250	4	8
2,500	7.5	15
5,000	15	30
10,000	30	60
20,000	60	120
40,000	120	240
1 acre	125	250

How to Use Compost:

Compost can be used as an amendment to improve soil texture and increase both nutrient and water holding capacity. In San Diego, where soil quality is poor, mixing compost in with the soil is one of the best things for yards and gardens. Here's how:

- Amend garden soil by incorporating one to two inches of compost four to six inches deep into the soil. Irrigate the area twice thoroughly before planting.
- Top-dress planters with compost to help reduce water loss and protect root systems. Spread three inches of compost around the base of plants and shrubs, keeping it from touching plant stems or trunks.
- Use compost as a potting mix for growing containerized plants and seedlings. Mix two parts compost, one part coarse sand, one part vermiculite and one part peat moss.



Compost can be used for a variety of landscaping and planting applications.

COMPOST HAS MANY BENEFITS FOR THE HOMEOWNER AND THE ENVIRONMENT:



Saves money

by conserving water and reducing the need to purchase commercial fertilizers and soil amendments.



Benefits yards and gardens

by improving soil health and fertility and preventing erosion.



Conserves water

by helping the soil hold more moisture and reducing the need for frequent watering.

Helps the environment

by recycling valuable organic materials and extending the life of the landfill.



WHAT IS MULCH?



Mulch is a protective ground cover that has many useful applications. At the Miramar Greenery, mulch is made from green waste that is diverted from the landfill. Mulch uses a 15-day composting process to kill weed seeds and plant pathogens instead of the 90-day process used for compost. The shorter process time leaves a 4-inch particle size resulting in higher quality mulch.

WHAT ARE WOOD CHIPS?



Wood chips can also be used as protective ground cover, decoration or other purposes. At the Miramar Greenery, natural, plain, red and brown wood chips are available. Natural wood chips are made from ground, untreated tree branches and logs. Plain wood chips are made from ground, untreated pallet wood and lumber. Both are made from wood waste that has been diverted from the landfill. Plain wood chips are also used to make colored wood chips, like red and brown, using non-toxic, iron-oxide dye. Other custom colors are available.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF MULCH AND WOOD CHIP PRODUCTS

Benefits:	Applications:	Instructions:
Weed Suppression: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hinders weed seed germination by blocking sunlight from soil surface. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bare soil Landscape top dressing 	Spread product evenly over bare soil to a depth of 4-6 inches. Replenish annually.
Dust Control: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduces incidences of vehicle or wind induced dust clouds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surfaces of dirt roads, trails, or unvegetated open areas. 	Spread a layer of product 2-3 inches deep over surfaces.
Erosion Prevention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lessens impact of heavy rainfall on steep slopes. Increases water holding capacity of soil. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steep slopes Bare soil Landscape top dressing 	Spread product to a depth of 5-8 inches. For slopes, place product at the very top so a concentrated flow of runoff does not wash it away.
Water Conservation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduces water evaporation and need for frequent irrigation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ground cover over bare soil Around plants Agricultural use Landscape top dressing 	Spread product around the base of plants and trees or out to the drip line at a depth of 4-6 inches (up to 12 inches for agricultural use). Leave air space between product and stems or trunks.
Plant Protection and Enhancement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduces drastic temperature changes. Decreases root compaction in heavy traffic areas. Reduces certain fungal diseases such as phytophthora (root rot)* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bare soil Ground cover Agricultural use 	Spread product around the base of plants and trees or out to the drip line at a depth of 4-6 inches (up to 12 inches for agricultural use). Leave air space between product and stems or trunks.

*California Integrated Waste Management Board, (1999). Compost Demonstration Project, Southern California: Use of Yard Trimmings and Compost on Citrus and Avocado (Publication #443-99-010). Retrieved April 8, 2009, from CIWMB Website via GPO Access: www.ciwmb.ca.gov/publications/Organics/44399010.doc

BENEFITS OF USING RECYCLED LANDSCAPE PRODUCTS

- Helps divert organic materials from entering the Miramar Landfill.
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions created from landfilling organic material.
- Improves soil structure, enhances landscape, conserves water and saves money, all with recycled materials.

DIRECTIONS TO THE MIRAMAR GREENERY

The Miramar Greenery is located inside the City's Miramar Landfill, located north of Highway 52 at 5180 Convoy Street.

Hours:

Monday - Friday: 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday and most
holidays: 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

*No hand loading/unloading
after 4 p.m.

For more information call
858-694-7000.



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